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(508) 875-2900<http://markey.house.gov>**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2107**

April 14, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) continues its work to reform the Universal Service Fund (USF) and Inter-carrier Compensation regime, the FCC is appropriately pursuing policies designed to reduce waste and increase accountability for ratepayers. At the same time, it is important that the Commission recognizes the continued need for consumer-driven services, such as the range of legitimate toll conferencing options.

As you know, millions of non-profit organizations, small businesses, educational institutions, and consumers rely on such services daily. There should be regulatory solutions that enable a level playing field for all telecommunications carriers and service providers in urban and rural areas while also eliminating the incentives for abuse. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking properly outlines the issues surrounding access stimulation, and I encourage the FCC to closely examine solutions that address pricing Inter-carrier Compensation rates to ensure that valuable, legitimate consumer services are preserved and private investment in underserved areas continues.

Thank you for your work on this important issue. I look forward to working with you to resolve this issue in a way that protects consumers and businesses.

Sincerely,

  
Edward J. Markey

WCP  
USF-Gen'l  
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

September 7, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2108 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's current efforts to reform the Universal Service Fund and the intercarrier compensation system. As you noted, one of the issues the Commission is examining in its *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* is access stimulation and the impact of Commission policies on services such as conference calling services.

Interested parties recently submitted comments and reply comments on proposals regarding access stimulation, and the Commission's staff is in the process of reviewing these filings. The *Proposed Rulemaking* did not propose to declare the practice unlawful, as many providers have urged. Rather, it required entities engaging in revenue sharing, which may include a conference call company, to refile their rates to reflect the volume of traffic delivered. Resolution of this issue should bring certainty to providers while taking action to reduce inflated revenues that result from intercarrier compensation rates based on elevated traffic volumes.

As the Commission considers these issues, our objective is to spur deployment of broadband and IP networks while taking measures to prevent gaming the intercarrier compensation system and eliminate any abuses and inefficiencies that are occurring with the current system. The reforms also will create a level playing field to enable all providers to compete on equal terms. Please be assured that any decision by the Commission will take into account the interests of consumers, businesses, and carriers, and the importance of continued investment in underserved areas.

I appreciate learning of your concerns and look forward to your continued input on these important issues.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski